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## TWO ADDITIONS TO THE FLORA OF LOUISIANA

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Recently two plants were sent for determination to the U. S. National Herbarium by Mr. E. C. Wurzlow, of Houma, Louisiana. Upon attempting to name them it was found that neither was included in Small's Flora of the Southeastern United States, although, from what Mr. Wurzlow writes concerning them, both deserve a place in any flora of Louisiana, being well established and so large and showy as to be at once noticed by any botanical collector. One of them, a member of the Acanthaceae, was sent for identification to Dr. G. Lindau, of Berlin, well known as an authority upon this group, who reports that it is the plant described from Mexico by Nees as *Cryphiacanthus angustifolius*. Since both plants received from Mr. Wurzlow are of considerable interest it seems desirable to make some permanent record of them. The data given below concerning distribution and growth in Louisiana are from copious notes kindly furnished by the collector.

### RUELLIA SPECTABILIS Britton

*Cryphiacanthus angustifolius* Nees in DC. Prodr. 11: 199. 1847,  
not *Ruellia angustifolia* Sw. 1788.

*Ruellia Tweediana* Hemsl. Biol. Centr. Amer. Bot. 2: 508.  
1882, not Griseb.

*Ruellia spectabilis* Britton, Ann. N. Y. Acad. Sci. 7: 192. 1893.

Nees based his description upon two specimens, the first from Jalapa, Mexico, collected by Galeotti, the second from Entre Rios, Argentina, collected by Tweedie. Grisebach, finding that the two collections represented distinct species, named the

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Argentina plant *Ruellia Tweediana*.\* The specific name *angustifolius* being preoccupied under *Ruellia*, Dr. Britton in 1893 renamed Nees's species *Ruellia spectabilis*, an appropriate name since it is one of the most showy members of the genus.

Hemsley in the *Biologia Centrali-Americana* reports the plant from Mexico as *Ruellia Tweediana* Griseb.?, citing only the original collection by Galeotti. Dr. Lindau writes that few specimens exist in European herbaria. In the U. S. National Herbarium there is a single collection apparently referable here, gathered by C. G. Pringle (no. 5043) on river ledges near Micos, San Luis Potosí, Mexico, distributed as *Ruellia Tweediana*.

About Houma, Louisiana, this plant appears to be an escape from cultivation. Mr. Wurzlów states that in his early boyhood his father imported a number of plants for cultivation and that this is probably one of them. It is now more or less common in Terre Bonne Parish, growing in cultivated and waste ground, often along ditches, seeming to prefer moist or wet places where it spreads rapidly from seed. It is also found within enclosures but grows without any care, the plants being so attractive with their handsome flowers and showing so little tendency to become troublesome weeds, that they are not looked upon as intruders. They grow to a height of 3 or 4 feet, sending up new stems every year from the rootstocks and flowering from July to October. The stems, branches of the inflorescence, and veins of the leaves are more or less tinged with purple. The corollas are lilac or purple and very showy, being about 5 cm. long. The leaves are narrow for the genus, being only 7 to 10 mm. wide, and 20 cm. long.

The occurrence of *Ruellia spectabilis* in Louisiana is of particular interest because it must be rare in its native region, otherwise so conspicuous a plant could not have been overlooked by collectors. It does not seem to be frequent in cultivation for it is seldom mentioned in literature.

#### SIPHONANTHUS INDICA L.

*Siphonanthus indica* L. Sp. Pl. 109. 1753.

*Ovieda mitis* L. Sp. Pl. ed. 2. 889. 1762.

\* Symb. Fl. Arg. 259. 1879.

*Clerodendrum Siphonanthus* R. Br. in Ait. Hort. Kew. ed. 2. 4: 65. 1812.

*Clerodendrum indicum* Kuntze, Rev. Gen. Pl. 2: 506. 1891.

This is well known under the name *Clerodendrum Siphonanthus*, but after a study of its synonymy it is evident that the proper designation is *Siphonanthus indica*. In the Species Plantarum Linnaeus published three genera that have usually been combined as one, *Clerodendrum*. These are *Siphonanthus* on page 109, and *Ovieda* and *Clerodendrum*\* on page 637, *Ovieda* having precedence on the page.

A single species is published under each genus, these being *Siphonanthus indica*, a well known plant of India, *Ovieda spinosa* (*Clerodendrum spinosum* Spreng.), common in the West Indies, and *Clerodendrum infortunata*, also from India. The first two plants are generally placed in the section *Siphonanthus* Schauer† of the genus *Clerodendrum*. The group of species included in this section has some claim to rank as a genus, because of differences in the form of the corolla from that of typical *Clerodendrum*, but apparently recent authors have not separated it. It is apparent, however, that if all the species commonly referred to *Clerodendrum* are to be combined in a single genus this must bear the name *Siphonanthus*. The writer has not attempted to determine the desirability of separating *Siphonanthus* and *Clerodendrum*, since there can be no question, under the American code of botanical nomenclature, as to the proper name for the plant discussed here.

Linnaeus based his *Siphonanthus indica* upon the name *Siphonanthemum*, applied by the Russian botanist Ammann in 1739 to an Indian plant. The species is said to be common in India and Java. In the U. S. National Herbarium there are Old World specimens from Bengal and Upper Burma. It is common in cultivation, especially in tropical and subtropical regions. Bailey's Cyclopaedia of Horticulture gives the common name as "Turks' turban" and states that the plant is "hardy in Florida." In the West Indies it has escaped from cultivation and become

\* This name is usually given as *Clerodendron*, but Linnaeus always writes it *Clerodendrum*.

† In DC. Prodr. 11: 670. 1847.

established. Specimens are at hand which show that it occurs in Guadeloupe, Martinique, and St. Croix, while Grisebach\* states that it is naturalized in St. Kitts, Trinidad, and Guiana.

Langlois in his Catalogue Provisoire de Plantes de la Basse-Louisiane† mentions a "*Clerodendron siphon*" as introduced at Point a la Hache, on the lower Mississippi. This is doubtless the plant that has now become so well established in southern Louisiana. Mr. Wurzlow writes that he has observed it for many years, not only in Terre Bonne Parish, where it is very common, but in other parishes of the southern part of the state. It grows along roadsides, ditch banks, and fencerows, and in cultivated ground to such an extent that it is regarded as a weed. It is distributed by seed, but after the plants are established they spread rapidly by rootstocks, forming large patches. Repeated cutting or destruction of the tops does not destroy it when it invades cultivated fields. Although frequently seen in neglected places about dwellings it is not known to be in cultivation.

Prof. R. S. Cocks, of Tulane University, writes that so far as he knows the plant was first collected in 1884 by Dr. Joor near Baton Rouge. He further states that it occurs abundantly in the vicinity of New Orleans and occurs more or less commonly throughout southeastern Louisiana, especially in alluvial soils.

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## CENTRAL AMERICAN MOSSES

BY ELIZABETH GERTRUDE BRITTON AND ROBERT STATHAM WILLIAMS

### 1. *Campylopus filifolius* (Hornsch.) Mitt.

Guatemala: Alta Verapaz, 3330a, Maxon and Hay, 1904;  
Alta Verapaz, 29, Cook and Doyle, 1905.

Costa Rica: Cartago, 506, Maxon, 1906.

### 2. *Campylopus subleucogaster* (C. Müll.) Jaeger.

Guatemala: Cubilquitz, 6652, H. von Turckheim, 1892.

Costa Rica: Vicinity of Coliblanco, 264, Maxon, 1906.

\* Fl. Brit. W. Ind. 500. 1864.

† p. 15. 1887.